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**Fax**

To:	Mail Stop Issue Fee	From:	Mikio Ishimaru
Fax:	(571) 273-2885	Pages:	4, including this page
Phone:		Date:	March 16, 2006
Re:	U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/692,028		

☒ Issue Fee☐ Information☐ Other**IMPORTANT**

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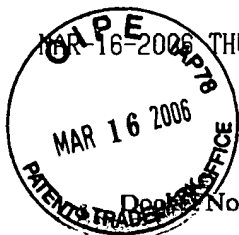
  
Signature

Winona C. Orange

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With reference to serial number 10/692,028 (attorney docket no. 1016-066), the following are being submitted:

- Fax Cover Sheet with Certificate of Transmission (1 page)
- Fee(s) Transmittal with duplicate copy (2 pages)
- Comments on Examiner's Reasons for Allowance (1 page)



Do not stamp No.: 1016-066

PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: Bei Chao Zhang, et al. : Confirmation No.: 6419  
Serial No.: 10/692,028 : Art Unit: 2891  
Filed: 10/23/2003 : Examiner: David A. Zarneke  
For: VIA ELECTROMIGRATION IMPROVEMENT BY CHANGING THE VIA  
BOTTOM GEOMETRIC PROFILE

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

DOES NOT AFFECT PATENT TERM ADJUSTMENT  
Under 37 CFR 1.704(c)(10)

Sir:

The following Comments are submitted in response to the Notice of Allowability dated December 20, 2005. Applicants respectfully request no reduction of the Patent Term Adjustment in accordance with Clarification of 37 CFR 1.704(c)(10) – "Reduction of Patent Term Adjustment for Certain Types of Papers Filed After a Notice of Allowance has been Mailed", 1247 Official Gazette Patent Office 111 (June 26, 2001), which states:

"The submission of the following paper after a Notice of Allowance is not considered a failure to engage in reasonable efforts to conclude processing or examination for an application: ... (6) a response to the examiner's reasons for allowance or a request to correct an error or omission in the 'Notice of Allowance' or 'Notice of Allowability'... [underlining and deletion for clarity]

**COMMENTS**

Concerning the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-9 and 13-17 are allowable because they claim a combination, which includes, *inter alia*, concepts related to those addressed by the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

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Registration No. 26,070

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